

10/551771

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (currently amended) ~~Oligopeptides used as elicitors~~ An elicitor of the natural defenses of plants against ~~fungi and/or bacterial and/or viral~~ plant pathogens and/or plant pests by foliage, root or injection application, ~~characterized in that they are~~ comprising:

a wetting agent or a penetrating agent used in agriculture; and

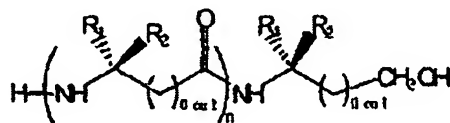
at least one oligopeptide obtained by organic or enzymatic synthesis, ~~and that they have the particularity of being homopolymers~~ , wherein,

said wetting agent or penetrating agent is capable of carrying said oligopeptide to the cells of a plant,

said oligopeptide is a homopolymer of protein and/or non-protein amino acids, and

~~in that~~ the amino acids constitute sequences of said polymers which are selected for their property to form structures of the spiral type.

2. (currently amended) ~~Oligopeptides~~ The elicitor of the natural defenses of plants according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that they have~~ wherein said at least one oligopeptide has the following formula:



in which ~~[[R]]~~ R₁ and R₂ = H, an alkyl[[,]] group or a substituted alkyl group;

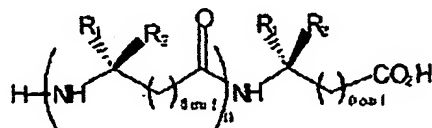
according to the L or D configuration of the amino acids used: R₁ and R₂ = H, an alkyl[[,]] group or a substituted or side chain alkyl group of natural or non-natural amino acids, protected in the case of functional chains: R₁ and R₂ ~~can be~~ are identical or non-identical;

the N side terminal of the homopolymers being or not acylated;

n being ~~comprised~~ between 3 and 30 in the case of homopolymers obtained in a mixture;

n being ~~comprised~~ between 3 and 20 in the case of pure and characterized homopolymers.

3. (currently amended) ~~Oligopeptides~~, The elicitor of the natural defenses of plants according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that they have~~ wherein said at least one oligopeptide has the following formula:..



in which ~~[[R]]~~ R₁ and R₂ = H, an alkyl[[,]] group or a substituted alkyl group;

according to the L or D configuration of the amino acids used: R₁ and R₂ = H, an alkyl[[,]] group or a substituted or side chain alkyl group of natural or non-natural amino acids, protected in the case of functional chains: R₁ and R₂ ~~can be~~ are identical or non-identical;

the N side terminal of the homopolymers being acylated or not;

n being ~~comprised~~ between 3 and 30 in the case of homopolymers obtained in a mixture;

n being ~~comprised~~ between 3 and 20 in the case of pure and characterized homopolymers.

4. (currently amended) ~~Composition characterized in that it comprises~~ The elicitor of the natural defenses of plants

according to claim 1, wherein said at least one oligopeptide
~~obtained according to at least one of the preceding claims and~~
~~comprising~~ comprises at least one amino acid of the protein
and/or non-protein type.

5. (currently amended) ~~Composition~~ The elicitor of
the natural defenses of plants according to claim 4,
~~characterized in that the oligopeptides used are~~ wherein said at
least one oligopeptide is incorporated in ~~a vehicle used in~~
~~agriculture of the wetting and or~~ penetrating type agent.

6. (currently amended) ~~Composition~~ The elicitor of
the natural defenses of plants according to claim 5,
~~characterized in that it is present~~ wherein the elicitor is in
liquid form, ~~particularly aqueous solution~~.

7. (currently amended) ~~Composition~~ The elicitor of
the natural defenses of plants according to claim 5,
~~characterized in that it is present~~ wherein the elicitor is in
[[the]] solid form, ~~particularly powder, granules or seed~~
~~eladding~~.

8. (canceled)

9. (new) The elicitor of the natural defenses of plants according to claim 2, wherein said at least one oligopeptide comprises at least one amino acid of the protein or non-protein type.

10. (new) The elicitor of the natural defenses of plants according to claim 3, wherein said at least one oligopeptide comprises at least one amino acid of the protein or non-protein type.

11. (new) The elicitor of the natural defenses of plants according to claim 6, wherein said liquid form is an aqueous solution.

12. (new) The elicitor of the natural defenses of plants according to claim 7, wherein said solid form is selected from the group consisting of powder, granules and seed cladding.

13. (new) The elicitor of the natural defenses of plants according to claim 1, wherein the plants are selected from the group consisting of cereal plants, grape plants, oil-producing plants, fruit trees, horticultural plants and lawns.

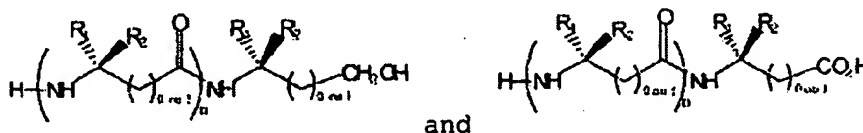
14. (new) An elicitor of the natural defenses of plants against plant pathogens comprising:

... an oligopeptide obtained by organic or enzymatic synthesis; and

a wetting agent or penetrating agent used in agriculture that is capable of carrying said oligopeptide to plant cells by foliage, root or injection application, wherein,

said oligopeptide is a homopolymer of protein or non-protein amino acids selected for the property to form a spiral structure, and

said oligopeptide has a formula selected from group the consisting of



R_1 and $\text{R}_2 = \text{H}$, an alkyl group or a substituted alkyl group,

according to the L or D configuration of the amino acids used: R_1 and $\text{R}_2 = \text{H}$, an alkyl group or a substituted or side chain alkyl group of natural or non-natural amino acids,

protected in the case of functional chains: R_1 and R_2 are identical or non-identical,

the N side terminal of the homopolymers is or not acylated,

n is between 3 and 30 in the case of homopolymers
obtained in a mixture, and

n is between 3 and 20 in the case of pure and
characterized homopolymers.

15. (new) A method of treating a plant, comprising:
contacting a plant with an elicitor of the natural
defenses of plants according to claim 1 so as to simulate the
contact of plant pathogens with the cells of the plant and lead
to an acquired resistance of the plant to plant pathogens,
wherein,

said plant is contacted by the elicitor by applying
the elicitor to the plant foliage, applying the elicitor to the
plant roots, or injecting the elicitor into the plants.

16. (new) The method of treating a plant according to
claim 15, wherein,

the plant is a cereal plant, and

the plant pathogens are selected from the group
consisting of oidiums, septorioses, molds, fusarioses,
pyricularioses, bacterial maladies, viral maladies and
combinations thereof.

17. (new) The method of treating a plant according to
claim 15, wherein,

the plant is a fruit tree, and

the plant pathogens are selected from the group consisting of oidiums, tavelures, moniloses, bacterial maladies, viral maladies and combinations thereof.

18. (new) The method of treating a plant according to claim 15, wherein,

the plant is a grape plant, and

the plant pathogens are selected from the group consisting of oidium, mildew, Botrytis, maladies of the wood, telluric, viral maladies and combinations thereof.

19. (new) The method of treating a plant according to claim 15, wherein,

the plant is a lawn or a horticulture plant, and

the plant pathogens are selected from the group consisting of pythiaces, mushrooms with sclerotes, fusarioses, oidiums, bacterial maladies, viral maladies and combinations thereof.

20. (new) The method of treating a plant according to claim 15, wherein,

the plant is an oil producing plant, and

the plant pathogens are selected from the group

consisting of oidiums, mildews, phythiaces, mushrooms with sclerotes, vascular mushrooms, viral maladies and combinations thereof.

21. (new) The method of treating a plant according to claim 20, wherein,

the plant is selected from the group consisting of soy, sunflower, melon, carrot, cauliflower, and potato.